## Approved For Release 2005/07/13 : CIA-RDP80-00809A000500590025-7

U.S. Officials Only

CONFIDENTIAL

CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE AGENCY

## INFORMATION REPORT 25X1A COUNTRY Costa Rica SUBJECT Possible Display of False Name and Flag by Merchant Ships Entering Iron Curtain and Red Chinese Ports PLACE ACQUIRED DAS NO. OC1 NO. DATE ACQUIRED (BY SOURCE) 25X1A DATE DISTR. /2 Jul 54 DATE (OF INFO. NO. OF PAGES 1 OF THE UNITED STATES. WITHIN THE MEANING OF TITLE IS. SECTIONS 791 NO. OF ENCLS. ATION OF ITS CONTENTS TO OR RECEIPT BY AM UNAUTHORIZED PERSON 1 OHIGITED BY LAW. THE REPRODUCTION OF THIS REPORT IS PROBLETTED

وي

SUPP. TO

REPORT I'C.

SOURCE US national; officer of US merchant ship.

THIS IS UNEVALUATED INFORMATION

ï

Source has sailed Central and South American Waters for many years, and is evaluated by US Mavy's preparing officer as a competent observer.

The Office of Maval Intelligence furnished the following information to CIA for TAC dissemination in accordance with paragraph 3(c), NSCID 7. (RIC-11ED Confidential Report No 204-54)7

- 1. When I was last in Costa Rica April 1954 I was told by a government efficial of that country (whose name I promised not to disclose) that some merchant slaips have been painting on false names and fraudulently hoisting the Costa Rican flag prior to entering Soviet and Communist Chinese satellite ports. The specific countries and ports were unnamed.
- 2. The Costa Rican official added that this is a source of embarrassment to his government. He did not express an opinion as to what ships there were or to whether the fraudulent action was being taken to avoid trade restrictions, to avoid the four hundred dollars Costa Rican ship registration fee, or both. The official has requested merchant ship masters to inform him of the name and location of any ships sighted flying the Costa Rican flag, so that he might check their registration.
- 3. A syrchant ship master, whose nationality was not given, sighted the S/S ZETUAN, in a South American port, flying the Costa Rican flag and reported it to this official. The official later informed the reporting master that the ENTOPAN was not registered in Costa Rica.

The Mavy's preparing officer places little credibility in the allegation of fraudulent hoisting of the Costa Rican flag, but prepared the report faciling that it might prove of interest.7

- end -

## LIBRARY SUBJECT & AREA CODES

16E 756.571 756.532 16E

U.S. Officials Only CONFIDENTIAL

					<del></del>		$\overline{}$
DISTRIBUTION . STATE	ARMY	NAVY	AIR	FBI	! !	1 1	11
This report is for	the use within	the USA of the	e Intelligence	components	of tine Depar	iments or	

Agencies indicated above. It is not to be transmitted overseas originating office through the Assistant Director of the Office of Collection and Dissemination, CIA.